



**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION
MINUTES**

**SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
Monday, January 7, 2019**

The Public Safety Commission convened a meeting Monday, January 7, 2019 at Town Lake Center Building, 721 Barton Springs Road, Assembly Room #130 in Austin, Texas.

Chair, Rebecca Webber called the Board Meeting to order at 4:00p.m.

Board Members in Attendance:

Rebecca Webber	Noel Landuyt
Kim Rossmo	Sam Holt
Ed Scruggs	Michelle McCurdy
Rebecca Bernhardt	Daniela Nunez

Board Member Absent:

Rebecca Gonzales
Brian Haley
Preston Tyree

Staff in Attendance:

Troy Gay, Chief of Staff, Austin Police Department
Richard Davis, Assistant Chief, Austin Fire Department
Jasper Brown, Chief of Staff, Austin Travis County Emergency Services

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - Commissioner Webber called the meeting to order at 4:00pm and asked for discussions of the December 3, 2018 minutes, and hearing no discussion the minutes were deemed adopted.

2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS –

- Carlos Leon – Follow Up on his grievance filed against Elizabeth Cary Grace, City of Austin Attorney; Capital Metro bullying bus drivers
- Juliana Gonzales, Senior Director of Sexual Assaults at SAFE Alliance - Committed to attend the Public Safety Commission's monthly meetings and share a monthly general report on SAFE's role in the community and how their efforts impact/serve Austin's crime victims of sexual assault.

3. Monthly Stats from Public Safety Departments – Monthly stats from public safety departments – authorized strength by rank, vacancies by rank, overtime hours by rank, call volume by Council District, response times by council District - sponsored by Commissioners Landuyt and Webber

Commissioner Webber called for the monthly stats report from the Public Safety Departments.

All three departments presented their monthly stats with AC Davis with Austin Fire Department presenting first. AC Gay, Austin Police Department informed the board that APD's overtime by rank stats will change since a contract is currently in place between the City of Austin and Austin Police. Commanders and Lieutenants are exempt employees and do not receive overtime pay. Jasper Brown shared an update concerning EMS transitioning from a 48hrs to 42hrs work week.

Commissioner Rossmo requested a six months report of crimes committed and crimes cleared, caseloads, and graphs going back five years maybe to show trends and trending. In addition to the crime data he requested data on traffic fatalities and hot spot maps that would show where problems seem to be occurring. Information on EDPs (Emotionally Disturbed People) calls answered by Austin Police Department and EMS Department will be provided as well. Data on crimes cleared by arrest and exceptional clearance was requested as well by Commissioner Bernhardt.

4. Status report on pending DPS audit of APD sexual assault clearance rates for January, November and December 2017

Commissioner Webber introduced the item and yielded the floor to, Troy Gay (APD) to begin discussion. Per AC Gay, this (Uniform Crime Reporting Audit) was an audit requested by Chief Manley. UCR is a voluntary program that allowed us (Austin Police) to look at our clearances in comparison to other numbers across the US. The preliminary numbers from the audit did raise some concerns even though we don't have the final audit back to review/explore the findings at this time. As a result of the finding in the memo from UCR, we believe we need to provide some additional training from our investigative training bureau and that training will start tomorrow on January 8, 2019. The train the trainers will then train the investigative departments over the next week. AC Gay offered to answer questions, but cautioned without having the report yet, he may not be able to answer all questions.

Commissioner Webber called Amanda Lewis (Austin Commission for Women) speaker signed up to speak on this item.

- Shared her concerns as an individual
- Wanted to reiterate there is a lot of interest in transparency concerning case clearances
- Waiting to review results of the audit when completed
- Concerned with case clearances labeled as survivors choosing not to move forward.

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There was discussion and questions from the PSC board members. Commissioner Rossmo began the discussion with a question, what is APD's process for cases labeled exceptional clearance? AC Gay responded with an explanation/definition for clearances, and explained a four prong process that is used by the department. There were continued questions and comments from Commissioners Holt, Nunez, Scruggs, Bernhardt. Assistant Chief Gay commented the audit report is expected to be released no later than January 18, 2019. The report will be released to APD and made available to the public as well.

5. Report on wildfire readiness in Central Texas

Justice Jones and Captain Kregg Phillips coordinated presentation

Justice Jones began the presentation and shared several topics/updates they would be presenting on today. He introduced the GIS analyst that has completed so much work for the city and AFD as well. There were several presenters from AFD for the topics listed below.

- Update on Council Recommendations
- Wildfire Risk Levels for Austin Travis County
- Wildland Urban Interface in Miles
- Wildland Urban Interface in Miles (647 Austin and 2, 725 in Travis County)
- Planning for Wildfire
- Community Wildfire Preparedness Firewise
- Fuels Mitigation Projects
- Effective Responses and Specific Evacuation Planning

6. Report from Police Monitor on newly formed Office of Police Oversight (OPO)

Commissioner Webber introduced this item and invited Farah Muscadin to begin her presentation on all of the changes to create the new Office of Police Oversight from Office of Police Monitor. Farah presented information on the make-up and goals of the new office. Farah elaborated on the changes as a result of the city ordinance and what the next steps are for the OPO.

- Introduced the Community Engagement Team and its role
- Review of the City Manager Memo
- Review City Ordinance that establishes the Office of Police Oversight
- 2018 Meet & Confer Agreement
- Next Steps for the Office of Police Oversight

Farah expressed a big thank you at the end of her presentation to various organizations and the community that assisted with the creating of the Office of Police Oversight.

7. Report on building repairs at the Police Patrol Station on 8th Street

Commissioner Webber introduced the topic. Assistant Chief Gay commented that he and Ken Casaday (President, Austin Police Association) toured the building and an inspection of the building was ordered. The inspection discovered a leak in the sewer pipes and no sewer was leaking, but there was gas emission. The sewer pipes have been repaired and the bathroom on 3rd and 2nd floors has been renovated with new toilets, sinks and valves. The showers are being looked at for renovations as well. While these repairs won't make the building any newer, it makes the conditions better.

8. Future Agenda Items

- Wellness Research Survey (Rossmo)
- Crime Stats (Rossmo)
- CDC Study on Scooter Issue – (Scruggs)

Adjourn @ 6pm